

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : March 26, 2001
ROBERT H. WAKE et al. :
Serial No.: N/A :
Filed: Herewith :
For: DETECTOR ARRAY FOR USE IN A :
LASER IMAGING APPARATUS :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please replace the first paragraph under "Related Applications" with:

--This is a division of application serial No. 09/627,148, filed July 27, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,211,512, which is a division of application serial No. 08/963,760, filed November 4, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,100,520, which is a nonprovisional application claiming the benefits of provisional application Nos. 60/032,591, 60/032,592 and 60/032,593, all filed November 29, 1996, all of which are hereby incorporated by reference.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel all claims except claim 15 without prejudice.

Please add the following claims.

16. A method as in claim 15, wherein said providing a source of laser beam is implemented with a near infrared laser.

17. A method as in claim 15, wherein said providing a source of laser beam is implemented with a laser diode.

18. A method as in claim 15, wherein said providing a plurality of sensors is implemented with photo-diodes.

19. A method as in claim 15, wherein said providing a plurality of sensors is implemented with photo-transistors.

20. A method as in claim 15, wherein said providing a plurality of sensors is implemented with PIN diodes.

21. A method as in claim 15, wherein said providing a plurality of sensors is implemented with photo-multiplier tubes.

22. A method as in claim 15, wherein said providing a plurality of sensors includes arranging the sensors around the object in an arc.

23. A method as in claim 15, wherein said providing a plurality of sensors includes orbiting the sensors with the laser beam around the object.

24. A method as in claim 15, wherein:

a) said restricting the field of view is implemented by disposing each detector inside a respective housing at a distance from an open front end of the housing; and

b) pointing each housing toward the object.

25. A method as in claim 24, wherein the respective housing is disposed in a one-dimensional array with respect to the other housings.

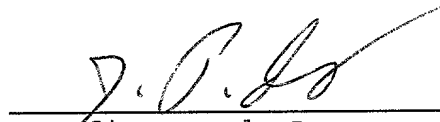
26. A method as in claim 24, wherein the respective housing is disposed in a two-dimensional array with respect to the other housings.

REMARKS

Applicants have cancelled claims 1-14 and added claims 16-26.

It is respectfully requested that the amendment be entered before computing the filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,


Josefino P. de Leon
Reg. No. 33,166

SHLESINGER, ARKWRIGHT & GARVEY LLP
3000 South Eads Street
Arlington, Virginia 22202
(703) 684-5600
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